

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A method for the allocation of seats to customers, usable with a computerized reservation system, comprising:

[[-]]assignment, in a database, to each customer, of data relative to placement criteria;

[[-]]assignment to each placement criterion, of an attribute weight;

determination of a group of customers for who an allocation is possible;

definition of seats available for the allocation;

[[-]]determination by a processor of a satisfaction value of the customers of the group of customers for each seat available for the allocation as a function of

agreement with the placement criteria, the satisfaction value being a particular numerical amount resulting from a specific mathematical operation, the satisfaction value being a percentage of satisfaction, the satisfaction value being a percentage of satisfaction, a maximum satisfaction being 100 percent;

- assignment, in a database, to each customer, of a priority level; and

[[-]]assignment of seats available for the allocation to all the customers of the group of customers by allocation with an allocation server, to each customer of the group of customers, by decreasing order of level of priority, of the ~~available seat~~ available for the allocation having the maximum satisfaction value, and

upon each new reservation or cancellation of seat:7

determination of an updated group of customers
for who an allocation is possible;

definition of an updated set of seats available
for the allocation;

determination by a processor of the satisfaction
value of the customers of the updated group of customers
for each seat of the updated set of seats available for the
allocation as a function of agreement with the placement
criteria,

assignment of seats of the updated set of seats
available for the allocation to all the customers of the
updated group of customers by allocation with an allocation
server, to each customer of the updated group of customers,
by decreasing order of level of priority, of the available
seat of the updated set of seats available for the
allocation having the maximum satisfaction value

~~reassignment of seats to all the customers by
allocation, with the allocation server, to each customer, by
decreasing order of level of priority, of the available seat
having the maximum satisfaction value.~~

22. (canceled)

23. (previously presented) The method according to claim 21, further comprising upon all the available seats being assigned, placing remaining customers on a waiting list.

24. (previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein there is assigned to each seat at least one attribute indicating inclusion in group of available seats, for the definition of the seats available for allocation.

25. (previously presented) The method according to claim 24, wherein there is excluded from the group of available seats, seats whose reservation is confirmed by the customer.

26. (previously presented) The method according to claim 25, wherein for customers whose seat has a confirmed reservation, there is carried out a search procedure for a possible better seat by the steps of allocation.

27. (previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein the placement criteria comprise data as to zone or location of the seats desired by the customer.

28. (previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein the placement criteria comprise a criterion of adjacency of the customer to at least one other customer.

29. (previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein there is assigned to each placement criterion an attribute defining it either as mandatory or as preferred.

30. (canceled)